

Message Text

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TAGS: SNAR, FR, US

SUBJECT: FRENCH-US CODEINE CONSUMPTION FOR 1973

CND DEL FOR DR. JEAN PAUL SMITH FROM BACKENHEIMER

1. IMS ESTIMATES ON FOLLOWING CONSUMPTION IN PHARMACEUTICAL PRACTICES: FRANCE 9 TONS (249 KG); US 29 TONS (542 KG); FRANCE (POPULATION 54 MILLION) - 171 MG CODEINE PER PERSON; US (POPULATION 211 MILLION) - 140 MG CODEINE PER PERSON.

2. DIFFERENCE PROBABLY GREATER CONSIDERING FRENCH FIGURES DO NOT REFLECT HOSPITAL USE, WHICH COULD ADD AN ADDITIONAL 10-20 PERCENT VOLUME.

3. THE STATEMENT THAT FRENCH MEDICINAL TABLETS ARE DOSES WITH ABOUT ONE-THIRD THE AMOUNT OF CODEINE AS US TABLETS MAY BE VERY TRUE. HOWEVER, OUR FIGURES LEAD ONE TO BELIEVE IF THIS IS THE CASE US PHYSICIANS USE LESS OF THESE MORE POTENT PRODUCTS THAN THEIR FRENCH COUNTERPARTS. TO ILLUSTRATE THIS POINT, COMPARE A US PRODUCT CONTAINING 15 MG CODEINE - TABLETS PRESCRIBED TWICE A DAY FOR TWO DAYS VERSUS A FRENCH PRODUCT AT 5 MG - TABLET DIRECTED FOUR TIMES DAILY FOR FOUR DAYS. THUS, WHILE THE FRENCH PRODUCT CONTAINS

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LESS CODEINE PER DOSE, MORE FREQUENT DOSAGE AND LONGER
THERAPY RESULT IN A NET CODEINE CONSUMPTION OF 80 MG IN
THE LATTER CASE VERSUS 60 MG IN THE FORMER. KISSINGER

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